

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NAVIGATING AND DELETING DESCRIPTORS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 This application claims the benefit of the earlier filing date of co-pending provisional application of Jon Ebbe Brelin and Hisato Shima entitled, "*System and Method for Accessing Navigating Descriptors*," Serial No. 09/541,145, filed March 31, 2000 and incorporated herein by reference.

10 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to data retrieval in audio, video or audio/video interconnected systems for home or office use and, more particularly, to a system and method for navigating a descriptor hierarchy within such systems.

15 Background

20 Data retrieval from a high speed serial bus such as an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 1394 standard serial bus, std 1394-1995, Standard For A High Performance Serial Bus, (August 30, 1996) (hereinafter referred to as the "IEEE 1394 standard serial bus") incorporates unnecessary operations and burdens an audio video/control ("AV/C") protocol that uses the IEEE 1394 standard serial bus. One illustration of this problem relates to the IEEE 1394 standard serial bus that uses a controller device to navigate a descriptor hierarchy in a target device (also referred to herein as a data structure hierarchy) and the controller sends a command to, for example, a descriptor to open. An AV/C controller ("controller")
25 is a device at a serial bus node that sends AV/C commands to control a remote AV/C device. A target's descriptor ("target") has defined fields used for sharing device information and which may be modified by any device. When navigating a descriptor hierarchy, a controller, using conventional AV/C commands, opens and reads a descriptor on a target device containing information. This information may
30 pertain, for example, to a destination file.

Navigating a descriptor hierarchy involves a controller opening and reading descriptors that are arranged in a hierarchical format. Descriptors in a descriptor